

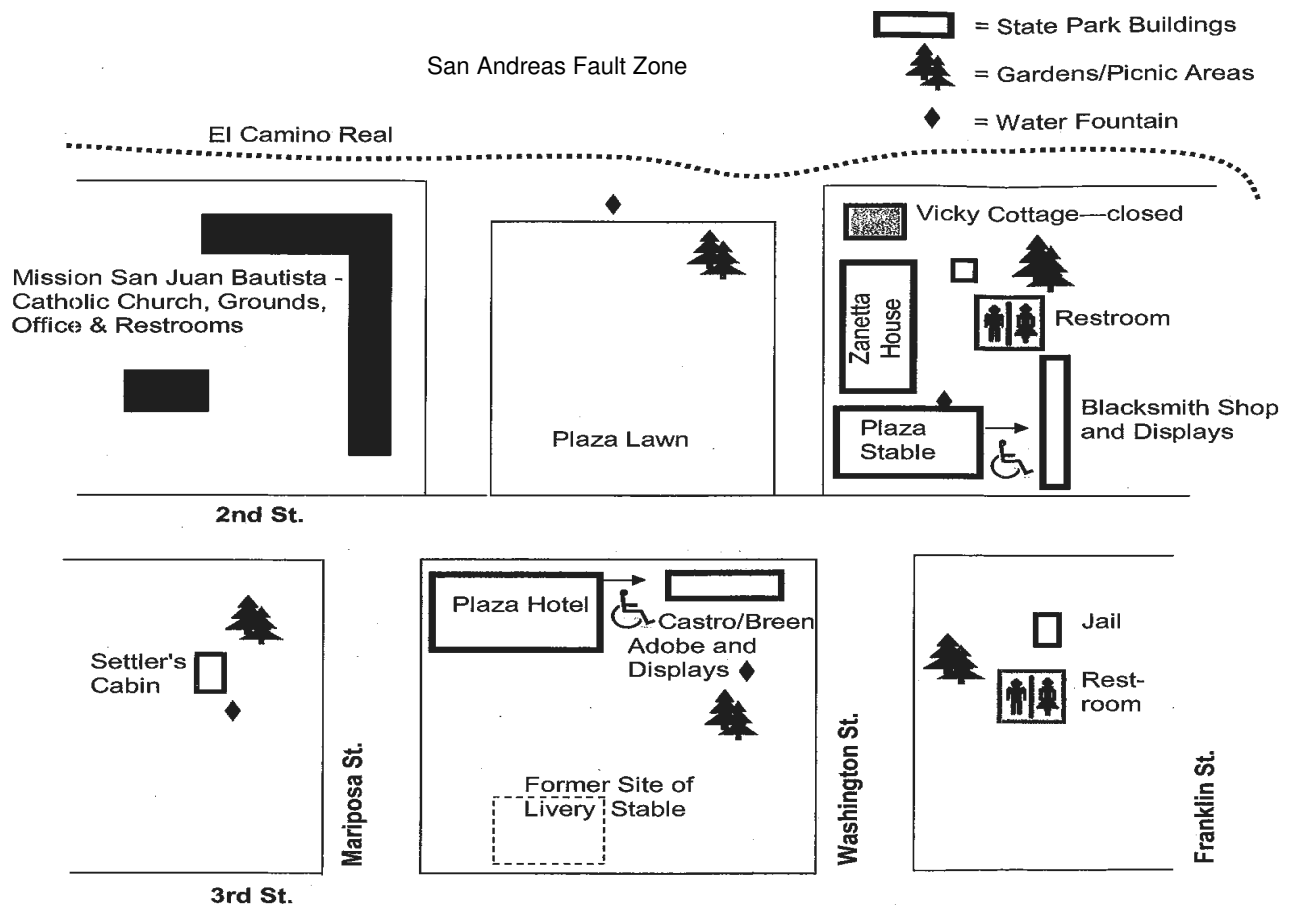


## Junior Tour Guides, 2014 San Juan Bautista State Historic Park

*Welcome!* These museums are a wonderful place to learn early California history. This “Scavenger Hunt” allows each student to become a tour guide so everyone can be a teacher. Remember, the more you look and listen, the more you’ll discover.

- 1) Always keep your group together
- 2) Using the map, find each stopping place
- 3) Have students take turns reading the material to the group
- 4) Record each student’s name on the section they read
- 5) *Have fun!*

Choose any museum to start with. You do not have to start with the first one listed.



## Plaza Hotel



### Outside the Hotel

**This section read by:** \_\_\_\_\_

This building was a one-story adobe barrack (sleeping area) for the Spanish soldiers guarding Mission San Juan Bautista. Their barracks looked like the mission, not the fancy Hotel we see today.

After the mission closed in 1836, the barracks became a saloon. Twenty years later, an Italian immigrant named Angelo Zanetta rented the saloon and made \$3,000 in one night!

Angelo used that money to build a second story creating the Hotel. Stagecoaches brought travelers from all over. A room cost \$2.50 for one night. Angelo also cooked and served delicious meals in the dining room.

### Inside the Hotel

**Second Room showing the Breen Family, Vaquero tools, Ohlone, and the manga**

**This section read by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Patrick and Margaret Breen were born in Ireland. First, they moved to Canada, then to America, then to California in 1848 with their 6 sons and one daughter. They traveled almost 2,000 miles in a covered wagon without good roads or maps.

The Breen's traveled west with others, including Patty Reed's family and the Donners. The snow was very deep when they finally reached the Sierra Nevada Mountains. They tried to cross the mountains several times, but couldn't for 115 days. There wasn't enough food and many people starved to death.

Two years later, the Breen's moved to San Juan Bautista. They lived in the house next to the Hotel. Their son John Breen found lots of gold so the family could buy the house.

The manga is a cape worn by a wealthy Spanish gentleman. This cape is more than 250 years old. Notice the sides are longer than the back. Why would this be better when the man was riding a horse?

**Third Room display cases showing Hotel ceramics and Guest Register**

**This section read by:** \_\_\_\_\_

One hundred and fifty years ago, buildings did not have indoor plumbing. When people wanted to wash up, they poured water from the big pitcher into the washbowl or basin. If they had to use the bathroom at night, they used the chamber pot. All the waste and dirty water went into the slop jar for the maid to empty.

Guests registered at the Hotel by writing their names and home city in big books. Angelo Zanetta and his partner John Comfort wrote the guest's room number and their payment. Look and see if anyone from your town registered in the book.

## Upstairs Parlor and Guest Room

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_



Every time the horn sounded, the Hotel workers knew another stagecoach was arriving. The men getting off the stagecoach would go into the saloon, get a drink, and sign the big book for their room key. Ladies and children never went into the bar. They would come upstairs to freshen up and check in.

Hotel guests loved to sit in this room, drinking tea, writing letters, and meeting the other guests. Families liked to play games and look into the stereoscope. How many have looked into a ViewMaster? A stereoscope is similar, except pictures in the olden days were only in black and white.

Look in the guest room. This was a typical room for an entire family. The trunk was a suitcase. There were no televisions, telephones, or bathrooms in these rooms.

## Downstairs Private Card Room and Saloon

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_

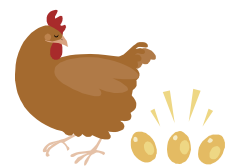
Only men used the Card Room and Saloon, women and children never came in here. Sometimes businessmen would have lunch meetings in the Private Card Room.

The men liked to tell stories, play games, gamble, and drink alcohol. Their favorite card games were Pedro and Faro. The table that looks like a pool table is actually a billiards table. Billiards is played with only three balls and there are no pockets or holes for the balls. The men earned points by hitting marks along the table.

The Saloon is decorated with fancy cut paper called papel picado hanging from the ceiling. These paper decorations were very popular for holidays and fiestas or parties.

## Outside Courtyard and Two-Story Outhouse

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_



This courtyard was originally the herb and vegetable garden for Angelo Zanetta to use in his restaurant. He grew onions, garlic, rosemary, thyme, and sage here. He also had a chicken coop where he could gather fresh eggs. Angelo Zanetta loved to cook and was famous for his steaks covered in mushrooms.

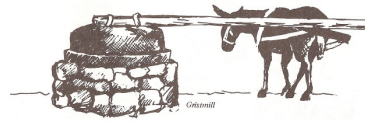
Find the Two-Story Outhouse. The Hotel did not have indoor bathrooms. People had to come to this privy to use the toilet. The ladies and children did not like walking down the stairs and past the saloon to use the outhouse. Angelo Zanetta built another story on the outhouse and the walkway for the families to use. Would you like to cross this bridge when you needed the rest room?

## Castro – Breen Adobe

### Outside Courtyard

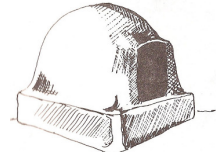
Find the Grist Mill, read the sign on the post

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_



### Find the horno or oven

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_



When the Castro family lived in the adobe, the servants cooked outside. If a fire started in the kitchen, it wouldn't burn down the house.

Women used grills, griddles, and hornos or ovens. The young boys woke up early to build a big fire inside the horno. When the walls of the oven were warm, the fire was taken out and the bread the girls prepared was placed inside. A wooden door kept the heat in so the bread could cook. On First Saturdays, the volunteers cook bread in this horno. Maybe one day we can bring our families and taste the bread.

## Inside the Castro – Breen Adobe

First room, cut out of Californio girl

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_



Jose Castro worked for the Mexican government and became a general. His father had this adobe built as a house and office for Jose and his family. Jose was never home very much. He traveled all over California and to Mexico. He was trying to create a new country in California. He did not want this land to be ruled by Mexico or the United States.

Jose and his wife had many children who lived and grew up in this house. The family worked, played, and sang together in these rooms. Spend some time reading about the family and the changes in San Juan Bautista.

Third room, cut out of American immigrant boy

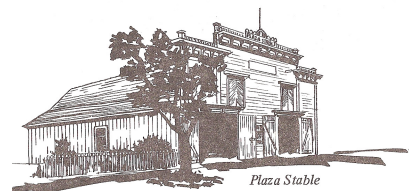
This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_



Some of our families recently came from another country or state. Imagine if your family wanted to walk over 2,000 miles to find a new place to live.

The Breen family traveled with a covered wagon across America. It was very difficult and it took them almost a year to reach the Sierra Nevada Mountains. When they tried to cross these mountains, the snow was over 28 feet deep. The family was stuck for almost 4 months. After they were rescued, they continued traveling until they came to San Juan Bautista. Jose Castro's family had moved to Monterey so they let the Breen's live in their house. Read the displays to discover how John Breen found a lot of money.

## Plaza Stable



### Inside the Stable

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_

This stable was built in the 1870s to house the horses from the seven to eleven stagecoaches arriving daily. San Juan was similar to a busy bus station or airport. People traveling between Monterey and Sacramento, or San Francisco and Los Angeles had to pass through this town. Just like the travelers, the horses needed a place to eat and rest.

Several men and boys cared for the horses, wagons, and carriages. The boys had to feed, water, and brush the horses. The blacksmith had to make new horseshoes and repair the vehicle wheels. Find these horse drawn vehicles and decide if it is equal to the vehicle listed on the right:

### Horse drawn vehicle

### Yes or No, is this a modern version?

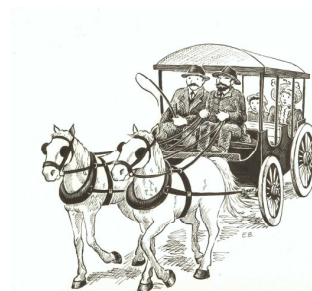
Buckboard carriage  
Mud wagon  
Hotel Hollister wagon  
Transport/Freight wagon  
Baroche

SUV  
Pick up truck  
Limousine  
Semi-truck  
Rolls Royce

### Find and read the “Tips for Stage Coach Travelers”

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Which is the group’s favorite tip?



## Blacksmith Shop and Displays

### Blacksmith Shop

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Bang, bang! The blacksmith’s hammer makes a loud noise every time he strikes the hot metal. A blacksmith has to be strong and skilled. He has to know how long to leave a piece of metal in the fire so it is the right temperature. Then he needs to know where and how hard to hit the piece to shape it into the tool, shoes, or tire he wants to make. The hot metal is dipped into a bucket of water to cool it off and make it hard. Blacksmiths also make brands to mark horses and cattle. After reading about the type of shoes displayed here, let’s move to the far left of the shed and read about brands.

### Find and read “The Art of Branding”

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Imagine you want to design a brand. Tell your group what it would look like.

## Zanetta House



### Outside the Zanetta House on the back porch

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_

During the mission days, a dormitory for the unmarried Indian girls was here. That building fell apart over the years. During the 1870s, Hotel owner Angelo Zanetta built this building. He was hoping to sell it to be county government offices. Unfortunately, the railroad company decided to bypass San Juan Bautista for Hollister. The town's people, travelers, and businesses also moved to Hollister.

Since Angelo Zanetta couldn't sell this building, his family moved into the downstairs. The upstairs was used for public meetings and dances. For many years, people loved to dress up and have parties upstairs.

Soon we will go inside and see items from over 100 years ago. We'll see Mary Zanetta's wedding dress (Angelo's daughter). It will be a different color from wedding dresses today. Also look for Angelo's wheelchair. He suffered a stroke and became blind and paralyzed. Everyone needs to decide their favorite toy in the children's room. Let's go in now.

## San Juan Eagle

### Next to the Blacksmith Shop



### Inside the San Juan Eagle shed

This section read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Before gas powered trucks were invented, firemen had to pull the fire trucks. Look at the picture of the firemen pulling this fire wagon. They hurried to fires and used the buckets to pour water on the flames. Take a minute and discuss why the bottoms of the buckets have a round shape.

Did anyone guess that the buckets could hold more water? That is correct. There is also another reason for the funny shape. The firemen discovered that the town's people would borrow their buckets. When a fire occurred, the buckets would be missing. The firemen decided to re-shape the bucket bottoms so they couldn't be placed on the ground. The town's people couldn't use the buckets, but the firemen could!

### Note to Teachers:

This "Scavenger Hunt" is designed to comply with San Juan Bautista State Historic Park's no pencil policy. It allows each student in the group a chance to teach the other students. You may allow the students to choose which section they want to read, or assign sections.

The information in this Junior Tour Guide may also be used pre- or post-visit. The park staff encourages you to make every field trip a learning experience. We welcome your comments and suggestions.